

multiple patient populations at different locations, and further, the common
template being used to generate a matrix that includes a plurality of possible post-
10 test diagnostic outcomes, each outcome indicating a possible disease and
probability for the disease; [includes a matrix of a plurality of independent input
variables coupled with a plurality of outcomes for each input variable, and still
further, each outcome being evidence-based from prior diagnoses taken from
patient populations;] and further,

15 (b) [providing a plurality of patient symptoms and information as input
variables;] creating each post-test outcome in the matrix from an array of
mathematical factors that are based on patient symptoms and information, with
one of the factors being a pre-test odds factor, and with the other factors in the
array being input as independent variables that indicate the likelihood of an
20 outcome based on certain diagnostic tests, with the number of independent
variables in the array being infinitely scalable to allow the addition or deletion of
independent variables over time as evidence-based data is accrued, and wherein
the factors in the array are multiplied together to produce the post-test diagnostic
outcome;

25 [(c) using the statistically accrued evidence-based outcomes from the input
variables to generate a plurality of disease categories that are related to the
symptoms indicated in step b;] and

[(d)] (c) reporting [a series of possible diagnoses and probabilities for each
diagnosis that is made immediately available] the possible post-test outcomes to a

- 30 user as a list of diagnostic probabilities ranked from the most likely to the least

 likely of possible diagnoses for a patient.
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
- 35 5. (cancelled)
6. (cancelled)
7. (cancelled)
8. (amended) The process of claim 1, including:

 creating each independent input variable [providing a ranked probability for multiple
40 diagnoses from the multiple input variables] by using an algorithm that generates a
unique [at least one] likelihood ratio for each independent input variable, for estimating
[the probability of each diagnosis] a weighted contribution to each diagnosis.
9. (amended) The process of claim 8, wherein the [probability of each diagnosis]

 pre-test odds factor for each post-test outcome is determined prior to conducting a patient
45 examination for a particular disease and redetermined following the actual outcome of the
patient examination, [thereby incorporating relevant information in the form of a linked
succession of likelihood ratios from the examination into the post-examination
calculation] by using the information from the patient examination.
10. (amended) The process of claim 8, including multiplying a chain of likelihood
50 ratios with the pre-test odds factor to produce a product that refines the accuracy of
[ranked probabilities] the pre-test odds factor.